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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/079,845

02/22/2002

Shunji Arai

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05/24/2004

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EXAMINER

PHU, SANH D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2682

DATE MAILED: 05/24/2004

4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/079,845

Applicant(s)

ARAI, SHUNJI

Examiner

Sanh D Phu

Art Unit

2682

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The IDS filed 6/3/2002 has been considered and recorded in the file.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this

Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors

Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology

Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S.

patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed

before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Narcisse (4,675,656).

As per claims 1, 12 and 15, see figures 1-4, and col. 2, line 13 to col. 5, line 62, Narcisse discloses a method and associated system wherein the method/system (see figure 1) comprising a base station (10) and a terminal (20) wherein the terminal comprises:

a reception status detector step/means (24, 25) for detecting a reception status of a signal received from said base station; and

a notification unit step/means (28) for notifying said base station of the reception status detected by said reception status detector, said base station having a function (18) (see figure 3) of displaying the reception status transmitted from said terminal on a display unit.

As per claim 2, Narcisse discloses that said terminal detects received signal strength as the reception status of the signal received from said base station (see col. 2, lines 50–67 and col. 5, lines 12–23).

As per claim 3, Narcisse discloses that the signal received from the said base station is a signal obtained upon radio connection between said base station and said terminal (see figure 1).

As per claim 4, Narcisse discloses that said base station issues a reception status notification request during the radio connection with said terminal; and when said terminal receives the reception status notification request from said base station, said notification unit of said terminal notifies said base station of the reception status in response to the reception status notification request (see figures 3 and 4).

As per claim 5, Narcisse discloses that the signal received from said base station is a notification which always transmitted from said base station (see figure 1); said terminal has a storage device (88) for storing the reception status; and said reception status detector (114) detects the reception status

upon receiving the notification signal (94, 106) and notifying said base station the reception status (see figure 4).

As per claim 6, Narcisse disclose that said base station has a storage device (62) for storing the reception status notified from said terminal, with linkage to terminal identification information of said terminal; and displays the reception status and the terminal identification information stored in said storage device, linked to each other , on said display unit (18) (see figure 3 and col. 4, lines 37–52).

As per claim 7, Narcisse discloses that said base station has an extractor (72) for extracting the worst reception statuses among reception statuses and the terminal identification information of the reception status stored in said storage device; and displays the worst reception status and the terminal identification information extracted by said extractor on said display unit (see figure 3, and col. 4, lines 32–52).

As per claim 8, Narcisse discloses that if radio connection cannot be established with said terminal, said base station displays the terminal

identification information of said terminal on said display unit (see col. 4, lines 45-52 and col. 5, lines 19-62).

As per claim 9, Narcisse disclose that the system has plural terminals (20, 22) (see figure 1) ; said base station has a register (62) for registering said terminals; and said base station performs call origination, issuance of the reception status notification request, and reception of the reception status, on said terminals registered in said register in sequence, repeatedly (see figure 3, and col. 3, line 38 to col. 4, line 52).

As per claim 10, Narcisse discloses that said base station has interface (70, 72) for connection with said display unit (18) (see figure 3).

As per claim 11, Narcisse discloses that the system is a communication system (see figure 1).

As per claim 13, see figures 1-4, Narcisse discloses a system (see figure 3) comprising a receiver (16) for receiving a reception status of a signal received by a plurality of remote terminals (20, 22) (see figure 1); and a controller (68, 72) for displaying the received reception status of the plurality of remote terminals on a display unit (18).

As per claim 14, Narcisse discloses that said display unit shows information indicating each of said plurality of remote units with said reception status of said system (see col. 4, lines 45–52).

4. Claims 1–4, 10–13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sakurai et al (2002/0193077).

As per claims 1, 12 and 15, see figures 24, 25 and 26A–C, and section [0173] to [0197], Sakurai et al discloses a method and associated system wherein the method/system (see figure 24) comprising a base station (104b) and a terminal (105b) wherein the terminal comprises:

a reception status detector step/means (117d) for detecting a reception status of a signal received from said base station; and

a notification unit step/means (117d, 113b) for notifying said base station of the reception status detected by said reception status detector, said base station having a function (1103) of displaying the reception status transmitted from said terminal on a display unit (see also figure 25).

As per claim 2, Sakurai et al discloses that said terminal detects a received signal strength as the reception status of the signal received from said base station (see figure 25).

As per claim 3, Sakurai et al discloses that the signal received from the said base station is a signal obtained upon radio connection between said base station and said terminal (see figure 24).

As per claim 4, Sakurai et al discloses that said base station issues a reception status notification request during the radio connection with said terminal; and when said terminal receives the reception status notification request from said base station, said notification unit of said terminal notifies said base station of the reception status in response to the reception status notification request (see figure 24).

As per claim 10, Sakurai et al discloses that said base station has interface (106b) for connection with said display unit (1103) (see figure 27).

As per claim 11, Sakurai et al discloses that the system is a communication system (see figure 27).

As per claim 13, see figures 27 and 27, Sakurai et al discloses a system (see figure 27) comprising a receiver (104b) for receiving a reception status of a signal received by a plurality of remote terminals (105b); and a controller (106b) for displaying the received reception status of the plurality of remote terminals on a display unit (1103).

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakurai et al

As per claim 5, Sakurai et al discloses that the signal received from said base station is a notification which always transmitted from said base station (see figures 24 and 25); and said reception status detector at said terminal detects the reception status upon receiving the notification signal and notifying

said base station the reception status (see figure 26, and sections [0182]–[0188]). He also discloses the reception status, after being detected, is required to be transmitted to the base station at a predetermined interval (see [0187]).

Sakurai et al does not disclose that said terminal has a storage device for storing the reception status. However, using a storage device in a terminal to store data and retrieve later at a desired time is well known in the art, and the examiner takes Official Notice.

Therefore, for an application, it would have been obvious that a person skilled in the art, when building Sakurai et al invention, could use a storage device in said terminal for storing the reception status, after being detected, so that the reception status would be retrieved later for being transmitted on time to the base station at a predetermined interval, as required.

7. Claims 6– 9 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakurai et al in view of Narcisse.

As per claim 6, Sakurai et al discloses that said base station displays the reception status on said display unit (see figure 24). He also discloses said base station receives reception statuses notified from plural terminals.

Sakurai et al does not disclose that said base station has a storage device for storing the reception status notified from said terminal, with linkage to terminal identification information of said terminal; and displays the terminal identification information stored in said storage device, linked to each other, on said display unit.

Narcisse discloses a storage device (62) at a base station for storing the reception status notified from plural terminals, with linkage to terminal identification information of said terminals; and displays the respective terminal identification information stored in said storage device, linked to each other, on a display unit (see figure 3, and col. 4, lines 32-52).

Therefore, for an application for identifying and distinguishing these received reception statuses, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to implement Narcisse teaching in Sakurai et al base station a feature of storing the reception status notified from a terminal, with linkage to terminal

identification information of said terminal; and displays the terminal identification information stored in said storage device, linked to each other, on said display unit so that said base station would be enhanced with feature of simultaneously identifying, distinguishing and displaying reception status transmitted from more than one terminal.

As per claim 7, Sakurai et al in view of Narcisse discloses that said base station has an extractor (72) for extracting the worst reception statuses among reception statuses and the terminal identification information of the reception status stored in said storage device; and displays the worst reception status and the terminal identification information extracted by said extractor on said display unit (see Narcisse, figure 3, and col. 4, lines 32–52).

As per claim 8, Sakurai et al disclose said base station receives reception statuses notified from plural terminals.

Sakurai et al does not disclose that if radio connection cannot be established with said terminal, said base station displays the terminal identification information of said terminal on said display unit.

Narcisse discloses that if radio connection cannot be established with a terminal, a base station displays the terminal identification information of said terminal on a display unit (see col. 4, lines 45–52 and col. 5, lines 19–62)..

Therefore, for an application for identifying and distinguishing these received reception statuses, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to implement Narcisse teaching in Sakurai et al base station a feature that if radio connection cannot be established with a terminal, a base station displays the terminal identification information of said terminal on a display unit so that Sakurai et al's base station would keep track which terminal lost radio connection with the base station.

As per claim 9, Sakurai et al discloses that the system has plural terminals (105b) (see [0008]); and said base station performs call origination, issuance of the reception status notification request, and reception of the reception status on said terminals. Sakurai et al does not disclose that said base station has a register for registering said terminals.

Narcisse discloses a register (62) (see figure 3) at a base station (10) for registering plural terminals (20, 22) identification codes.

Therefore, for an application for identifying and distinguishing these received reception statuses, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to implement Narcisse teaching in Sakurai et al base station a register at said base station for registering plural terminals identification codes so that Sakurai et al's base station would keep track which terminal is on and connects with the base station.

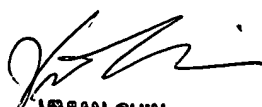
Claim 14 is rejected with similar reasons set forth for claims 6 and 8.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sanh D Phu whose telephone number is (703) 305-8635. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-16:30.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-8635.


VIVIAN CHIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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5/17/04